



THE OTTER REALM

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APRIL 7, 2005

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MONTEREY BAY'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER DEDICATED TO INFORMING THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

V.11 No.11

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Student targeted in campus hate crime



Antisemitic and antigay graffiti scribbled on the door of the victim, Mike Barkoff.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Adam Joseph, Managing Editor
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Amongst the usual "noise complaints" and "failures to stop at posted stop signs" entered in the Feb. 26 University Police Department's daily crime log, sat the phrase "hate crime," like a vicious fist plunged into the gut.

Sometime between 3 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Feb. 26, the third floor of Building 202 was plagued with writing in permanent marker stating phrases such as "Jews suck," "I am Mike and I am a fag," and "KKK." Accompanying the phrases were drawings of phal-luses and several swastikas.

"I felt utter shock and numbness," said Mike Barkoff, a freshman business major, after first seeing the slanderous phrases directed at him littered throughout the dorm.

"Who could've done this?" has become a common question Barkoff now asks himself on a regular basis. A lot of speculation points to the suspect(s) residing in Building 202. However, Barkoff strongly believes it wasn't a resident of Building 202.

"The locks were broken so the doors were propped open that weekend," Barkoff said of how easy it could have been for anyone to get into the residence hall.

"It's like someone coming into your house and writing on your brother's door," said Emmalyn Yamrick, Residential Director for Buildings 201, 202, and 203, on the impact this act has had on the other students on the third floor.

The marker was removed by a cleaning service about an hour after the call in to the police. The cleaner solution was so strong paint from the door came

New food contract proposed

By Kimber Solana, Staff Reporter
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Students are leading a movement demanding a greater student voice in the selection of the food service provider after current food service provider Sodexo's contract expires in June.

A majority of students agree that they should have more input in choosing a food service provider for the campus, according to a recent student-created survey of 708 students.

The university has sent a Request For Proposal (RFP) to various businesses and services with sets of expectations on what is wanted from a food service provider in terms of menus, schedules, responsibilities, products, etc.

"The RFP simply covers basic operational standards needed to provide food service on this campus," said BUS senior and student representative Joshua Mann.

"Nobody was talking about the contract and the student representatives haven't been informing us on what was going on," said Jessica Sanchez, HCOM senior and one of students heading the movement. "Prior to our movement, there was nothing."

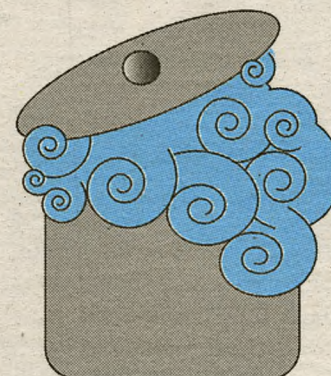
The RFP was created without student input on what students wanted and expected from food service providers. Student contribution will come after the proposals are submitted.

A committee that involves four students and other staff/faculty members will review the proposals, make recommendations, and bring their ideas to the University

Foundation board.

Student representative Gabriela Orantes said she "would have liked student input on the RFP, but that doesn't mean student concerns can't be addressed now."

"The university requests what they want from a provider," said Dan Kaupie, general manager of Dining Services. "As a company,



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News

Thousands of parking tickets OK, says UPD

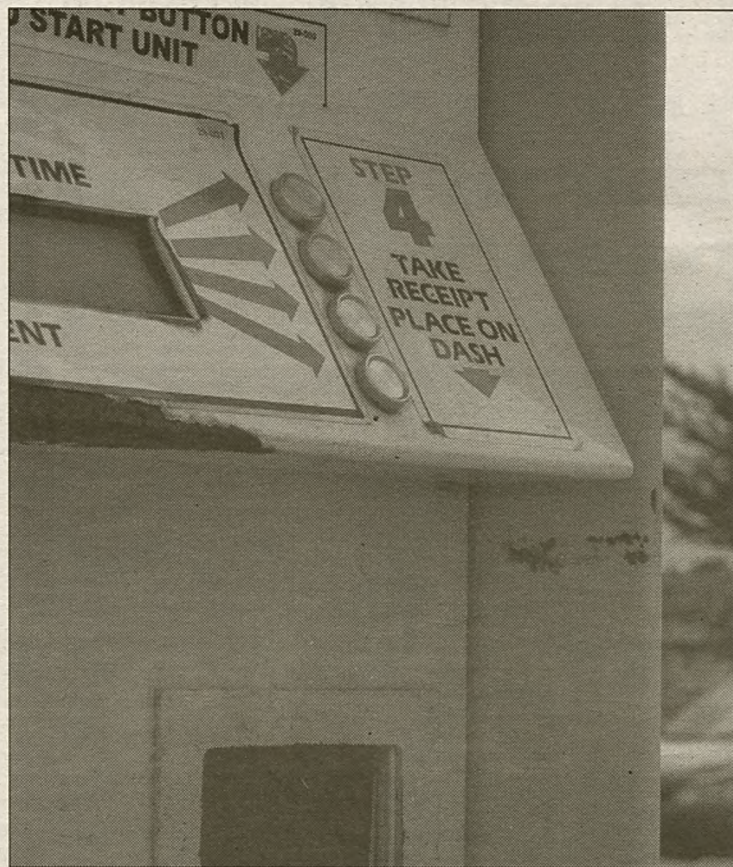


PHOTO BY CHAD GHIRON

This parking permit dispenser stands in the way of an unnecessary parking ticket.

By Erin Nokes, Staff Reporter
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CSUMB students are no strangers to parking tickets, often receiving more than one or two a semester, leaving some students feeling overwhelmed.

This semester, a total of "1,394

citations have been issued," said Troy Holt, the Transportation and Parking Services administrator. Compared to last year, the amount of parking citations is actually down from 4,178 to 2,832, according to Holt.

The number seems high com-

pared to neighboring University of California, Santa Cruz, which issued a total of 1,530 citations in the past year, according to their University Police Web site. On the surface this comparison indicates CSUMB issues twice as many parking citations as UC Santa Cruz, despite having less than a fourth the population.

There are extenuating factors,

"Parking is 75-80 percent of our campus, whereas San Francisco State is only 9 percent."

-TROY HOLT

however. With the CSUMB campus being spread out across 1,365 acres, many students must drive and parking is a problem. Many other campuses are bunched together and so students there don't necessarily have to drive.

According to Holt, "parking is 75-80 percent of our campus, whereas San Francisco State is only 9 percent." Holt added that parking passes at CSUMB are cheaper than all other CSUs, except "[CSU] Channel Islands;

we are tied with them."

Holt said the campus has an extremely giving grace period of two weeks before parking regulations are enforced at the start of each semester.

But according to Holt, it "begins the week before classes begin so that students can pick up their passes while they are picking up their books for class," and then continues into the first week of the semester when classes begin.

The grace period, according to Holt is "more than most CSUs. The usual is three days or none at all."

Yet most students are not allowed into their dorm rooms or on campus housing until the Thursday or Friday before Monday classes begin. For many students the grace period ends up seeming like only a week and a half.

In addition, students living in the North Quad Apartments and Suites are required to buy an extra \$35 parking pass, on top of the \$50 per semester regular pass, in order to park close to their homes. There is also very limited parking for visiting students in these lots, a 20 minute loading zone and \$1.50 parking passes that only accept quarters. There are supposed to be parking meters put in, but that has yet to happen.

When a student buys a North Quad Parking Pass, "the money

from those passes only goes to the upkeep of the North Quad, not to the rest of campus," according to Holt. The other parking passes purchased on campus contribute to the upkeep of the parking lots on campus.

"It costs between \$16,000 to \$30,000 dollars to replace a lighting fixture because they were built in the 40s and 50s," said Holt.

He added that the lights were not built to last as long as they have and so when they need to be repaired the best thing to do is just to replace them.

Holt added that as the campus grows and more parking lots are added an increase in the prices of the passes will occur. With this increase there is a possibility even more citations and citation officers might be needed.

These parking officers are students who go through a rigorous training process and they don't just write parking tickets but are responsible for a variety of tasks such as directing traffic and escorting students.

Parking officers have no quota as to how many citations they have to fill per semester or throughout the year. The amount of citations is decided by how many students are breaking the law or simply can't find parking, according to many students.

Visitor center built with money, old wood debuts

By Amanda Folliard, Staff Reporter
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A new orange building has been turning heads at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Third Street. The new Visitor's Center has been finished and opened to the public, constructed by Barhart Inc. and designed by architects Noll and Tam Inc.

Barhart Inc. has been around since 1983 and is involved in over 20 educational projects across California. Architects since 1992 Noll and Tam specialize in educational buildings.

Estimated cost for the new proj-

ect was \$4 million at the beginning of March 2004 according to Barhart Inc.'s website. Some CSUMB residents question the use of the funds for a Visitor's Center when the university needs other improvements.

"I have to wonder what we need more - councilors for our students or a new Visitor's Center?" said Barbara Sayad, professor of Human Performance and Health. "With the suicide rates being so high I believe we need more councilors for the student."

The new Visitor's Center will serve as an informational center

for new students, potential students and their families. There will also be space available for various activities, such as club meetings, staff presentations and of course new visitors. It will also be home to the Alumni office.

Construction broke ground in July of 2004 and the foundation was placed by September of 2004. Although initially the structure took awhile to get off the ground, once the foundation was up the building only took a few months to complete.

The new center has 15,000 square feet of new space consist-

ing of several offices, a new lobby and conference halls. By completion the project ended up costing \$4.58million, a final cost \$584,000 over the estimated price.

The new Visitor's Center is fully furnished with state of the art technology, including a large screen projector. According to John Beccaria, project manager of the new center, all of the wood in the ceiling comes from abandoned military buildings.

The university sent the wood back east to get it stripped and stained. Features include a fireplace, utilities, parking and a fully

landscaped exterior. The new Visitor's Center is home to the Alumni Office.

The grand opening of the Visitor's Center was March 11, several people turned out from CSUMB and neighboring communities, including the mayor of seaside and several city council members.

At the grand opening there was a PowerPoint presentation on the need for a new Visitor's Center and a documentary of the development of CSUMB.

"The grand opening seems to be a success," said Baccaria, who appreciated the great turnout.

The Otter Blotter

ALL THE POLICE CALLS THAT ARE FIT TO PRINT AND LAUGH ABOUT

INCIDENT: 911 Telephone Call March 23 2005–Wednesday

Location: 01/Administrative Center

Summary: Officer investigated a 911 call from an emergency phone. There was no emergency. The phone was accidentally hit by a janitor.

INCIDENT: 911 Telephone Call March 23 2005–Wednesday

Location: North Quad Suites (South)

Summary: Officer responded to a 911 call from an elevator phone. There was no emergency. The button was accidentally hit by a janitor (again).

INCIDENT: 911 Telephone Call March 23 2005–Wednesday

Location: North Quad Suites (North)

Summary: Officer responded to a 911 call from an elevator phone. The phone was accidentally activated by a janitor (third time).

INCIDENT: 911 Telephone Call March 24 2005–Thursday

Location: North Quad Apartments (East)

Summary: Officer responded to a 911 call from an elevator phone. A janitor accidentally pushed the button (fourth time).

HEALTH AND SAFETY: Cultivation Of Marijuana

March 25 2005–Friday

Location: 205/Residence Hall

Summary: While issuing a parking citation by building 205, the officer looked up and saw what appeared to be marijuana plants growing on a windowsill. The resident was contacted and arrested.

INCIDENT: Animal Control March 27 2005–Sunday

Location: Schoonover Park 1

Summary: A Henson Court resident reported her cat was trapped in a neighbor's garage. The neighbors were not home.

VANDALISM: Vehicle Tampering March 27 2005–Sunday

Location: Frederick Park 1

Summary: A Saratoga Court resident reported someone threw a billiard ball through the window of his car.

INCIDENT: Suspicious Circumstances

March 27 2005–Sunday

Location: North Quad Apartments (East)

Summary: A housing staff member reported someone burglarized her room and took a large quantity of cash. Officers discovered the money was misplaced not stolen.

INCIDENT/ALARM: Fire Alarm March 30 2005–Wednesday

Location: 205/Residence Hall

Summary: Officer responded to a fire alarm activation. The officer and fire personnel found extensive flooding in the building from a fire sprinkler on the second floor. The sprinkler activated when a resident used it as a clothes hook and broke the sensor.

INCIDENT: Suspicious Vehicle March 31 2005–Thursday

Location: Aquatics Center

Summary: Officers checked an occupied parked vehicle by the closed pool. Officers found a male and female "just talking."

No new President yet

CSUMB WAITS FOR NEWS ON PRESIDENTIAL REPLACEMENT



Looking towards the future of CSUMB, Smith smiles and straightens his tie.

PHOTO BY CHAD GHIRON

By Irina Reissler, Contributor

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The rumor mill about a new CSUMB President has been churning, but no one is close to being chosen yet.

President Peter Smith is awaiting a position in Paris, France as the head of education for the United Nations effective July 1. He will continue to serve as CSUMB president through June 2005 and hasn't a clue who'll fill his empty chair.

"Peter has said repeatedly that he doesn't know anything about his replacement and is not involved in the process," said Joan Weiner, News and Public Information officer. "We are waiting for an announcement to come from the Chancellor's Office. Once an announcement is made, it will be posted on FirstClass so everyone will know."

Charles Reed, chancellor of the

409,000-student CSU system, is in charge of making the appointment for an interim president. He is expected to make the decision arbitrarily, but not alone.

"I don't have any particular candidate in mind."

—CHARLES REED

"Since an appointment is temporal, the Chancellor is not required to seek approval from the Board of Trustees," said Stephen Reed, associate vice president for External Relations. "However, tradition indicates that he will consult with several Board members before he makes an announcement."

The chancellor gave a glimpse into his thoughts on the matter. "I don't have any particular candidate in mind," said the chancellor.

"The search will start by June 15, 2005 and not any earlier. The CSUMB interim is going to take on his duty by September."

Qualifying conditions for the interim are much simpler than for the permanent president.

"It will be some retired and very successful president who would comply with CSUMB policy and serve for six months until we find the permanent president," said the chancellor.

In September students as well as faculty and community members will have a unique opportunity to give recommendations in an open forum as to what the criteria should be for choosing the permanent president and under what terms.

One professor thought the first priority should be the Vision and a smooth transition to new leadership.

"I am hopeful that the interim president will be someone who will appreciate the university Vision," said associate professor Daniel Fernandez, "and will gently pave the way for our second president."

Budget forecast looks partly sunny

By Alexander Chapman, News Editor
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Statewide budget problems have left CSUMB's finances in a tight but solid state. The university is hard-pressed for resources but not leaking money and there's a bright future ahead of fee increases for students and a pay raise for staff.

Our current budget "has plus signs in front of the numbers not minus signs," said Associate Vice President of Finance John Fitzgibbon, who admits the budget's "not back to where we were back three years ago."

Budget director Cathy Rank remembers how after the CSU system's budget was slashed following the dot-com crash, CSUMB had to absorb an unexpected "unallocated \$5 million budget reduction."

"We've had budget reductions, we've had budget increases," said Rank. "There's not a single year we have closed in the red."

Budget cuts have been especially hard on CSUMB's academic model which Rank described as "academically enriched." Fitzgibbon

said "academic affairs has cut their budget and reallocated" existing resources around the cuts.

"We've been trying to keep in mind that these things are cyclical," said Fitzgibbon. For the first time in years, next year's proposed state budget contains more money for the CSU system.

There will be a fee increase of 8 percent to raise over \$100 million in new revenue, according to Charles Reed, CSU Chancellor. At the same time, staff pay will rise 3.5 percent at an overall at a cost of \$84-85 million, according to the Chancellor.

"One never likes to see fee increases," said Reed. "There's still an \$8 billion budget deficit the state needs to handle."

Reed said students shouldn't worry, because "for 114 thousand of our 400 thousand students we will be able to cover their fee increases" with financial aid.

"Since 2002 the CSU has added \$115 million in financial aid to help these students," said Reed of needy students.

Over \$200 million in increased funding for the CSU system is expected, according to Reed.

How much more money CSUMB will get exactly isn't known and hard to predict.

"Understanding how the CSU distributes it [money] can be quite challenging," said Rank, who said the process is loosely based on enrollment growth. For the 2004-2005 year CSUMB ran on a base budget of over \$52 million, steady but slightly less than the previous year, according to the budget office's comparison.

No bound budget has been published in the past two years due to turnover, workload and a "lack of institutional memory" in the budget office, according to Rank. Keeping the university accountable are audits from a wide variety of interests including the State Controller and the Chancellor's office among others, according to Fitzgibbon.

Every two years the Chancellor's Office of Internal Audits performs a Financial Integrity and State Manager's Accountability Act audit of CSUMB. Janice Mirza, Senior Director of the last audit of conditions in effect in Jan. 2004, said there were three possible opinions the audit could have arrived at regarding CSUMB.

"Of the three they [CSUMB] got the least nice one," Mirza said. The audit reported conditions at the time to be "not sufficient" to assure "assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use and disposition."

Mirza said the university was very responsive to the findings and had concurred with and shown action on all recommendations except two. "We assume everything is okay now," said Mirza who added she can "never be 100 percent sure." She expects another of these standard audits later this year.

Fitzgibbon said the university has "pretty good handles." In the current budget climate, Fitzgibbon said it's become imperative to "guard the funds closely."

CSUMB receives more money from the general fund per student than other CSUs except for Cal State Maritime Academy and CSU Channel Islands. Together these make the three smallest schools in the system, a factor which contributes to higher costs.

"Our percentage of fixed costs is higher than on other campuses," said Fitzgibbon. Smaller

campuses can't have their basic costs offset as readily by a large fee-paying student population.

A \$1.8 million mid-year operational budget deficit recently was made up with a combination of "covered by reserve and one-time sources," according to Fitzgibbon.

The annual designated contribution from CSUMB Employee Housing, Inc., which collects rents on staff housing, offset the remaining cost of the academic model, according to the 2004-2005 budget presentation.

Student rent flows into a separate auxiliary organization, the Foundation of CSUMB, which projected to have collected \$17 million in rent revenue over the 2004-2005 year, according to their budget. Contributions from the Foundation also helped offset loss of state fund revenue.

"What we're about is teaching," said Fitzgibbon of the budget cutbacks of the last few years. "We've tried to minimize the effect."

Fitzgibbon credited the "generosity of last minute deals with the legislature" for ensuring academic programs would not need to take serious cuts. The CSUMB budget for the 2005-2006 year will be presented May 5.

Local bands rock for relief effort

By Madeline Aselyne, Staff Reporter
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"If I had been there and someone told me that the sea was coming, I would have thought it was a joke. That was what a shock it was," said Don Jayakody, a junior at CSUMB.

Jayakody is from Colombo, Sri Lanka and was here at CSUMB when the tsunami hit his homeland and 11 surrounding countries on Dec. 26 2004. The official death toll estimated by the United Nations and government agencies of the 12 countries affected by the tsunami stands at 169,752 people, with 127,294 people missing, many presumed dead. On April 3 the Business Club sponsored the Concert for 2/3 nations at the UC Ballroom. The event raised

approximately \$1,200 for the tsunami fund and featured local acts such as Pacific Groove, Flojos Nos Visten, The Expendables and Coco Bea. Over 200 students came out to support the cause.

"My family wasn't directly affected, but everyone knows someone who was killed or hurt. My friend lost his parents and is now homeless," said Jayakody, who was at a friend's house over winter break when he learned about the tsunami.

Many of the children of Sri Lanka lost their families and all their possessions in the tsunami. Their way of life was completely destroyed and their government is without adequate resources to restore vital infrastructure. But the mental damage caused by this wall of water is harder to comprehend.

"The kids have suffered such psychological damage, their whole lives were literally washed away. These kids now have no place to get an education," said Maria Tassos, CIO of the Business Club, and tsunami relief organizer.

Jayakody helped by sending money home along with other Sri Lankians in the area. He also felt that CSUMB should lend a helping hand in rebuilding Sri Lanka's educational system.

"I turned on CNN, and all the news shots were from my country. I tried to call home and the phone lines were all busy. I got a hold of them [his parents] the next day. My parents were busy helping people, delivering medicine and everyone is helping," said Jayakody.

Jayakody along with the business club, members of AS and

Residential life, came together to create events that raise money for a fund to build a K-12 school in Sri Lanka. They also partnered with the youth division of the Lions Club that has an active charter in Sri Lanka, the Sri Lankian government, and all other CSU's.

The Business Club also created the CSU 1 for 1 campaign. It is aimed at having every student in the CSU system donate a dollar, which would raise about \$400,000 for the completion of the school.

"Growing up there, you can do

a lot with a dollar there. It will really help," said Jayakody.



PHOTO BY CHAD GHIRON

Hate

...from page 1

off along with the permanent marker. The doors will have to be repainted, eventually making this crime financially impact the students as well.

"The act itself was juvenile and rudimentary; it was like the kind of things you see written in a bathroom stall," said Lt. Jay McTaggart of the crime.

"In order for it to be considered a hate crime, the slander must be directly attacking a particular individual or group's religion, sexual orientation, gender, race, and so on," explained McTaggart. The suspect(s) not only face expulsion, if they are students at CSUMB, they also face legal prosecution; if convicted the penalties range anywhere from a \$5000 fine to one year in jail.

Mike didn't suffer any physical harm and the destructive words have been erased, but this act has changed him forever. "I never questioned my safety in the com-

munity where I grew up, and I'm hoping not to have to start questioning it here."

"I encouraged him to continue living there; I thought it was very important," said Charles

Schrammel, the Resident Adviser on duty the night of the incident.

According to Schrammel and Yamrick, students on the third floor are "being very supportive of what Mike's going through, and they have even been protective of him."

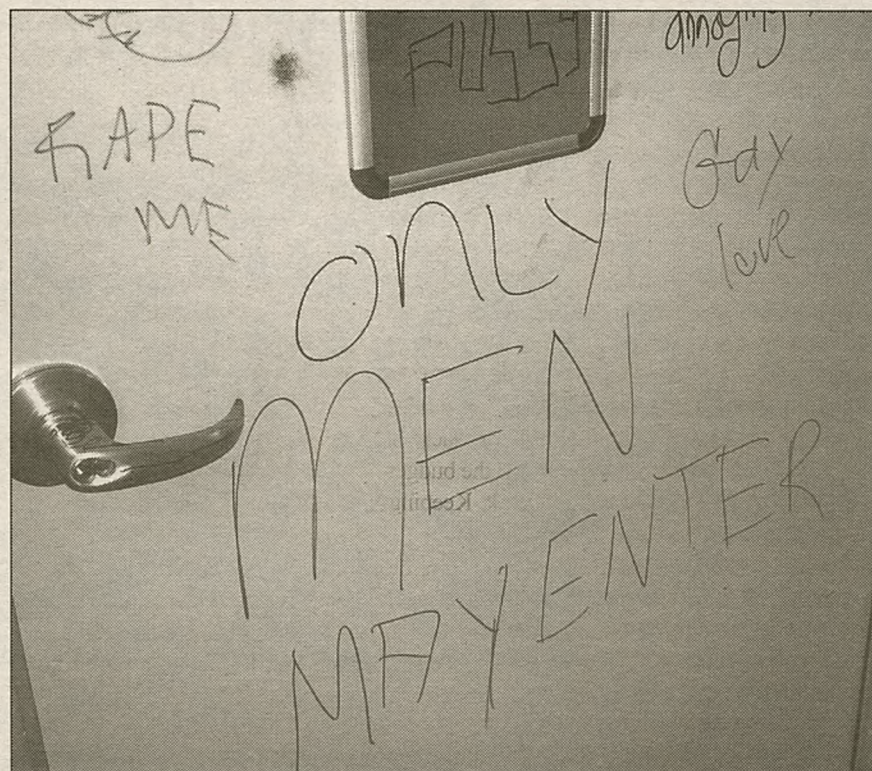
The UPD has posted a \$250 reward "for information leading to the arrest and conviction of suspect(s) responsible for the crime."

"Usually when we post a reward, a student will eventually come forward for the money," said McTaggart on the reason for offering a reward. According to the UPD there are no

suspects as of yet. There have been several interviews and there

"The act itself was juvenile and rudimentary; it was like the kind of things you see written in a bathroom stall."

—LT. JAY MCTAGGART



Hateful messages cover this door in the res halls.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE UPD

have been a few names of interest that have come up.

If Barkoff could say anything to the person(s) responsible for this he'd tell them that he "feels sorry for them."

"I'm not scared, and I'm not going anywhere," Barkoff continued.

If anyone has any information about this incident, please contact Sgt. Lawson at 582-3062. The UPD also has an anonymous tip line available for anyone wishing to keep their anonymity at 582-4747.

Food

...from page 1

we do what the proposal requests because we want to keep the account."

If Sodexo doesn't win the bid for next year, Sodexo will relocate Kaupie and other key managements. The new provider would have to interview workers, including student workers, again.

Though a group of students have independently joined forces together to publicize what they want, Kevin Saunders, the Administrative Director of the Foundation, is focused on using the committee of four students who are representing the student body. Sanchez was recently added to the committee.

"We are going through an RFP process that includes student involvement. I asked the students to have that responsibility and as we go through the process, we'd get more feedback," Saunders said.

Students want to break up the contract with other businesses for more options and variety, a

request Saunders said would be "highly unlikely."

"If that's not possible, at least keep the contract to a year to give students time to see and review if they like the provider," said Sanchez.

The students would also like to have local businesses and vendors come in, something Kaupie said Sodexo has done.

"We have allowed local businesses to come in and provide for the students such as having all the vegetables locally grown and getting our coffee from Santa Cruz," said Kaupie.

The survey also found that most students are unhappy with the current food service because of the taste and price of their food.

Sanchez said, "Most students go out and have voiced that they are not happy; all they want is to just have a bigger influence in this process."

"Some other students already went and jumped ahead of me, but I think it's something really positive to see," Orantes said. "It's really inspiring that students are getting together."

Orantes is planning on holding an open forum/townhall meeting sometime in April to clear up any misinformation and to help everyone understand the process that go into getting a contractor.

"We've put a lot of effort in trying to understand them," said

Sanchez. "A townhall meeting would be very helpful."

Proposals were due March 25 and the committee will now review and grade those contracts based on affordability, feasibility, etc.

"I'm glad to see that students are interested in the process," said

Mann. "I'm just not sure they understand the full ramifications of running a food service on this campus."

not to be cheezy, but...

Sports

Uncommon Sense



By Darrell Hirashima, Sports Editor
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Watching the Tarheels of UNC cut down the nets Monday night, as a sea of fans and student body flooded the streets of Chapel Hill, leaping over bonfires and waving their school colors high in the Carolina air, it begged the question: Could CSUMB ever have that kind of atmosphere?

The simple answer to that, is no. But we can have a different kind of atmosphere, not as grand as the elite Division I schools, but with just as much heart. The life of the small school is a long and lonely road, but when traveled with diligence and determination, it can lead to a unique and fulfilling experience.

Professors at CSUMB tell students that the fact they are even at this college says something about them as a person. Depending on who one talks to, that can be a good or a bad thing. But this unique environment could prove to be more of a blessing than a curse.

One of these days, onlookers may stare in wonderment at the fabled victories of the converted military base with the clumsy acronym for a name. They'll say things like, "There must be something in the water out there." Well, there actually is something in the water out here, but it's not making anyone a better athlete. And they'll mean it figuratively of course.

With the passing of the sports fee referendum, students can now attend games free of charge, giving the student body added incentive to support their home teams. And with students investing in athletics in the future, they can have an honest sense of ownership of the teams they support, unlike the big donor programs like UNC.

In the two and a half years I have lived and learned at CSUMB, I have seen a tangible shift in the attitude on this campus towards Otter sports. No one was being forced to come out to games, but they started to show because they felt some sort of inspiration from the effort they would witness.

Now how could a small college basketball game inspire an apathetic population of congregated youth? Maybe because a lot seems possible when you can be proud of the home team.

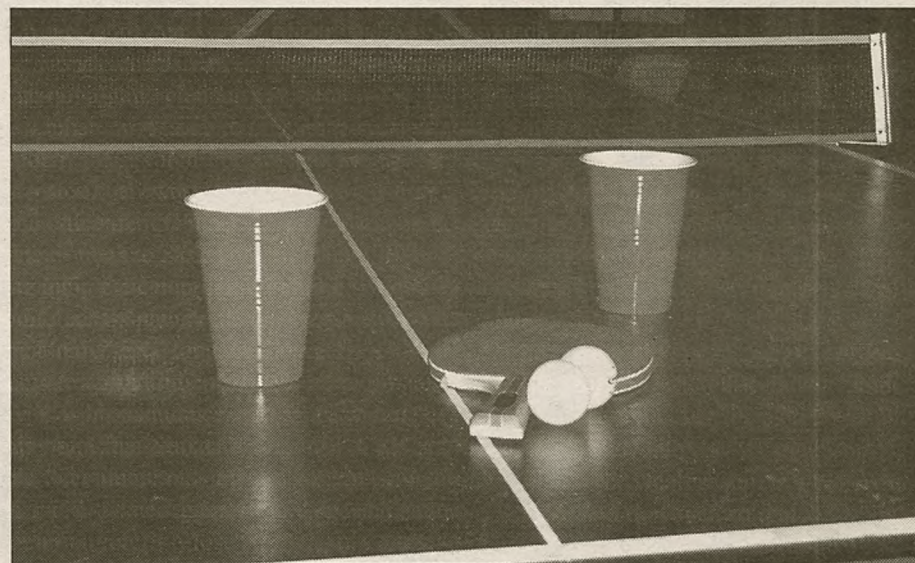
Beer Pong: Blurring the line between athleticism and alcoholism

By Erin Nokes, Staff Reporter
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Brewing in the depths of old basements and garages, beer pong champions are born spending long nights praying to the porcelain god while celebrating their recent victory.

Inspired by their love of competition and beer, these brave athletes compete to win. For these athletes, beer pong is not just a sport—it's a way of life. They practice diligently, conditioning and creating highly responsive and extremely good hand-eye coordination, as well as high tolerance levels to varieties of booze. They then hope their commitment to the perfection of their sport may propel them into the Beer Pong Hall of Fame where they become legends and role models for young hopefuls in the sport today.

CSUMB student and beer pong-er Keith Bruecker is just one of the many students on campus who have stepped up to the table in open defiance of more sedentary drinking games, as well as Olympic ping pong regulations. Unlike many participants of this rouge sport, Bruecker was able to



The rules may change from table to table, but the tools always remain the same.

PHOTOS BY JOSH WARREN

recall his ushering into the game.

"The first time I played beer pong, all I had was a 32 oz. of New Castle. On the first swing of the first game, I hit the beer with the paddle and it shattered all over the floor," said Bruecker, who was not discouraged by the poor results of his overzealous first attempt at beer pong glory.

Beer pong is not a sport for the weak of

heart, nor of stomach. The rules are many and vary depending upon where and who is playing. It is important that one is familiar with the rules before intoxication begins because once one has consumed enough beer, it is likely the rules will slip the mind and game play will become increasingly more difficult. That is except for the select few who only become more successful

and coordinated as the game continues, but these are few and far between.

These are the Beer Pong Champions, the people who, because of their love of the sport, submit themselves to hurl fests and sleeping on cold hard tile, relishing in their glorious performances night after night.



This beer pong battlefield probably has more than a few good stories to tell. The couch in the back just might too.

Golf 'pumped' to win tourneys

By Paul Diecidue, Staff Reporter
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Jonas Carlswald looks down the fairway before a drive.

During the week when all other students were celebrating their Spring Breaks, the CSUMB men's golf team was hosting the Williams Roofing Otter Invitational on March 20-22 at Bayonet Golf Course in Seaside, Calif.

The CSUMB Otters hosted an impressive group. There were a total of 18 teams, with seven of the top 15 NCAA Division II teams present. The tournament included such teams as CSU Bakersfield, CSU Chico, Grand Canyon University (Arizona), Lynn University (Florida), Western Washington and West Texas A&M.

"I feel this was one of the first tournaments where we all fought together as a team," said senior Captain Jonas Carlswald. "We are a team that conducts ourselves out on the course and takes pride in being representatives of CSUMB."

With all of this tough competition and a rain delay on the second day, the Otters shot 891 and finished second place in the tournament. Their two best finishers were sophomore Brian Thompson with a 220 and sophomore Grant Haney with a 221.

"I felt the team played great and really showed what we are capable of," said Thomson who also wanted to acknowledge and thank the grounds crew at Bayonet for their huge help in making play possible during the wet weather.

CSUMB was able to beat eight of the top 25 teams in Div. II, including CCAA rival Bakersfield, who was ranked fourth at the time.

"Game second of the tournament was a good kick start for us to finish off the rest of the season and I think it has got us pumped up to win some more tournaments," said Haney.

On May 27-29 the Otters finished eighth in the Coyote Invitational at Shandin Hills Golf Course in San Bernardino. Freshman Eric Justesen of CSUMB shot 69-71-72 over three days to finish five strokes behind the individual winner Shane Prante of St. Martins who shot nine under for the tournament.

The team was Cal Pac Champion every year since their beginning. Now in their inaugural season in the CCAA, men's golf is trying to prove they are ready made for the increase in competition, and hoping their impressive past bodes well for a great future waiting on the greens.

Their next tournament will be the CSU Stanislaus Golf Invitational on April 10-12 in Turlock, CA.

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Former coach and major fundraiser

By Mike Lewis, Staff Reporter
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Bill McClintock, a basketball benefactor at CSUMB, will likely step down from his chief duties as a fundraiser for the Athletic Department at the end of the year. In 1999 McClintock coached the basketball team to their only Cal Pac Conference title, earning a bid to compete in the NAIA National Tournament. McClintock served as head coach for the Otters until 2003 when he was succeeded by current men's basketball Coach Bill Trumbo.

After coaching, McClintock kept busy with the men's basketball program, passionately raising funds, writing grant applications and sustaining important relationships with donors like AT&T. At the beginning of this academic year, he implemented the Pete Newell Scholarship at CSUMB, giving talented athletes the opportunity to play basketball at a minimal cost.

Currently, along with the legendary coach Pete Newell, McClintock is the co-owner of

the Tall Women's Basketball Camp, held annually at CSUMB. Each summer in the Otter Sports Center, the camp specializes in basketball skills for women and girls over the height of 5 feet 9 inches.

Early on, McClintock's story wasn't always a successful one, but as a young man he didn't let a rejection letter from Marquette University stop him from having an impressive basketball career. Adversity didn't stop the young foundry worker who loved a game that didn't seem to love him back, as McClintock left his hometown of Milwaukee, Wisc. to play basketball at Monterey Peninsula College.

From MPC, McClintock went on to play for a UC Berkeley team that would win the NCAA National Championship in 1959 under the coaching of Newell.

After his playing days were

over, McClintock became a coach. As a coach he was involved with the University of San Francisco and San Jose State, but eventually the smaller bay would draw McClintock back to Monterey.

"I thought it was a great area," said McClintock. "I fell in love

with the bay the instant I saw it."

When he returned to the area as the head coach for CSUMB's hoops team, prospects were not initially as beautiful as he envisioned them.

Three starters, who had been the catalyst for winning games, did not return for a following season due to personal difficulties. The basketball program was so low on finances McClintock had to dig into his own pockets to divvy out cash for food. If that wasn't hard enough on him, the coach had the harsh realization about the attitudes of the players, who often thought

highly of themselves.

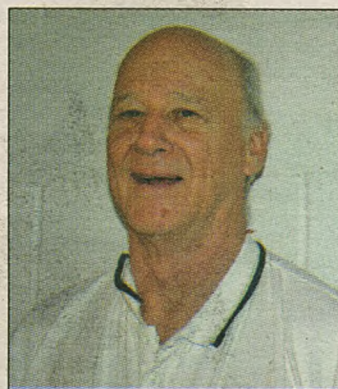
"The players thought that they were NBA bound and that wasn't the case," said McClintock.

After facing a plethora of problems, McClintock set three simple goals to fix the situation. First would be a renewed commitment to develop young men as players and as scholars. Secondly, he would work to increase funds for the basketball program at CSUMB. And third, the Otters should be competitive in the Cal Pac—a goal achieved surprisingly fast, as the team would capture '99 conference title in only their third year of existence.

The success of McClintock's coaching style can be most easily registered by the impressions left on the players.

"He taught me a lot about the game of basketball, about how to have good footwork, which helped me out a lot. I think I would have learned a lot more if I had more than one year with him at coach," said former forward Mike Miller.

Whether or not someone else will take over his patron duties is unknown. Filling his shoes may be a harder search.



Ten years at a glance

As the first decade of CSUMB comes to a close, so does the first decade of student sports on the Ord. Though pickup basketball and soccer games haven't gone anywhere since the days before intercollegiate sports on this campus, as a main attraction they have happily given way to packed gyms and top talent.

Intercollegiate competition began in 1996 when the Athletic Department humbly pioneered two teams. The women's volleyball team and the men's basketball team were the first to represent Otter pride in the athletic arena, as well as the first to overcome a mascot known more for being cute and cuddly than strong or determined.

But just as their animal kingdom namesake can prove to be a vicious and formidable creature up close, the Otters of CSUMB proved early that they could be equally feisty if put in the right position. In 1999 the men's basketball team won the Cal Pac Conference Championship, a feat that would not be repeated by any Otter team until men's soccer took the title again in 2002.

The Monterey area is known for

only one sport: golf. So it has been no wonder how CSUMB's golf team has consistently recruited and competed at a high level. Head men's golf Coach Bill Paulson has been involved with the program since its beginnings, and watched as the team recorded the highest postseason finish in CSUMB history when they took 11th in the NAIA National Tournament in the spring of 2004. The achievement just squeaked ahead of the women's golf team who, that same year, took 12th in the National Tournament for the second straight time.

This year has no doubt been the biggest for athletics at CSUMB. The Otters joined the California Collegiate Athletic Association, which just happens to be the most competitive conference in all of NCAA Division II. But only in terms of a little thing like overall National Championships.

Women's water polo joined the club this year, and baseball and softball are on the way, but don't anybody start thinking football anytime soon. But at least until that team shows up we will still be undefeated at something.

Life after CSUMB athletics

By Josh Warren, Staff Reporter
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The Otter athletic program is starting to make noise from former players pursuing professional careers, whether it is being a professional and continuing to play, or coaching a game they once loved to play.

According to men's soccer coach Artie Cairel, there have been numerous players who have gone on to play professional soccer from CSUMB, including the likes of Cristian Materazzi, Erick Supnet, Erick Ruggiero, Mike Bielski, Tommy Hernandez, and Nathan Northup.

Northup, a four-year starter, made the All-Cal Pac Conference First Team every season at CSUMB. The 5'10" mid-fielder from Torrance, Calif. has continued his passion to play for the Salinas Valley Samba, a semi-pro team in the National Premier Soccer League.

Northup gives credit to his coach, Cairel, for keeping the passion to play in him. "Artie encourages all his players to continue

playing if they can; he's one reason why I keep playing," Northup said, recent December graduate who still works out at CSUMB to keep his game up to par.

Soccer is not the only sport at CSUMB moving talent onward. Former basketball players Alex Frank and Nick Johnson have traveled a long road to professional basketball.

Frank, a 6'9" monster on the court is originally from New Orleans. After attending Division I Oklahoma, Frank transferred to Sacramento City College before making his final collegiate move to CSUMB.

"I played from 2000 to 2002 at CSUMB, and it was a good learning experience for me," said Frank.

In 2004 Frank was drafted to the American Basketball Association (ABA) by Hermissillo in Mexico, then was traded to the Fresno

Heat Wave. He currently plays for the San Jose Ballers in the International Basketball League (IBL).

Johnson on the other hand, is a quick 6'3" guard from Chicago. Rather than going

away from home after his high school career, Johnson decided to stay home and help his younger twin brothers and grandmother after the death of his mother.

Before attending CSUMB for two years, Johnson attended Morton Community College and LA Southwest Community College. Johnson

also played in the semi-pro Drew League in Los Angeles and in two professional showcases. After the showcases, Johnson was offered two over-seas professional contracts but turned them both down.

"I turned them down for one

reason: to get my degree so my little brothers can see me graduate," said Johnson.

Now working on his undergraduate degree at CSUMB with plans to graduate this May, Johnson has just been drafted by the San Jose Ballers after a try-out over spring break.

Some former players are also making their mark in the field of coaching in their life after Otter athletics. Most notably is former basketball player Lisa Misphey, who is now an assistant coach for Gonzaga University women's basketball team.

Lisa Misphey had a two-year career at CSUMB where she earned honorable mention Cal-Pac honors, was an NAIA Academic All-American and earned the CSUMB Female Scholar Athlete of the Year award.

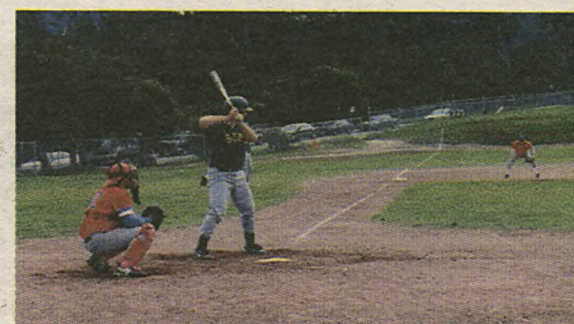
Also assistant coaching at Gonzaga, but for the men's team, is former basketball player Craig Fortier, who held an assistant coaching position at CSUMB for one year, after a two year career for the college. Jamie Weiler, a former volleyball player is currently an assistant coach here at CSUMB and running the Monterey Volleyball Club as well.



Men's basketball and women's volleyball become the first intercollegiate sports at CSUMB



Men's baseball club starts in the Spring of '98 and men's golf starts in the Fall



Sailing starts and the men's soccer team become Cal Pac Champions



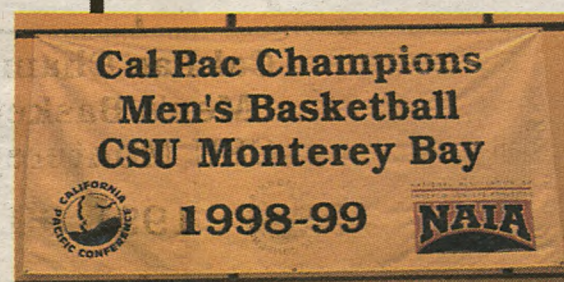
CSUMB Athletics enters CCAA & NCAA Div. II

After setting career rebounding record, Jared Jungwirth, center for the basketball team, is the first athlete in CSUMB history to have his jersey retired.

Pioneer students get together to play on random courts, beaches and fields



Women's basketball starts



Men's basketball wins Cal Pac Conference



Men's golf team places 11th in NAIA National Championship and women's golf takes 12th place for the second year in a row.

Arts & Essence

The Best Of...

The Campus Spots

By Heather Johnson, Staff Reporter
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and Ben Demarest, Staff Reporter
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While choices were limited when CSUMB first opened in 1994, the question is no longer where, but which in 2005.

These days, students have a wide selection to choose from when making everyday decisions like which restroom to use, where to do laundry, or where to park. And for all those students who enjoy outdoor relaxation, stargazing, or catching that perfect glimpse of the Monterey Bay, rest assured, there are numerous locations to pick from.

As CSUMB continues expanding, so do the options. With so much to choose from, it helps to know where to find the best of it all.

...Ocean View

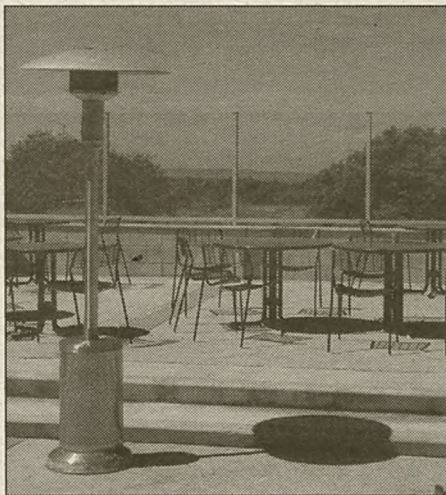


PHOTO BY CHAD GHIRON

The OBC's patio has the best ocean view at CSUMB.

All around campus, CSUMB students can catch glances of the Monterey Bay, but it's the OBC's outdoor patio, where students are treated to the best ocean view.

"It's nice to know that I can grab a bite to eat while taking in all the surrounding sights that the Monterey Peninsula has to offer," said Jennifer White, SBS junior.

The outdoor patio is spacious and equipped with lots of lounging space. It provides students with an undisturbed view of nature and the ocean and it's ideal for those who prefer a bay view over abandoned buildings.

...Bathroom

Perhaps while strolling around campus one day that urge suddenly hits.

Any student who enjoys a little ambience while taking care of business should consider taking a trip to the bathrooms in Building 53.

Roommates Justin Kenny, SBS sophomore, and Max Feldman, BUS junior, agree that the new science building is the best place to pee. "Those bathrooms are clean; they smell nice and they look almost new," said Kenny.

Since Fall of 2003, the Chapman Center has been home to some of the best restroom facilities on campus. Not only are they spotless, but they also provide their occupants with some much-needed privacy. "All I can say is that the bathrooms in Building 53 are fandangle!" said Feldman.

...Hang Out

It may be the shows. It may be the food. It may be the alcohol. Whatever it is, the Black Box Cabaret (BBC), owned and operated by the Otter Student Union, seems to be the most popular place to hang out on campus.

"The BBC has good shows," said Alisa Lai, an HCOM student. The line-up of live bands, plays and art attracts students of all interests to the BBC and most often the shows are free to CSUMB students.

While attending shows, the BBC offers students a variety of food choices. Their menu offers students alternatives that are not available at the Dining Commons, Otter Express, or Otter Bay Café. The deserts and pub food offered at the BBC are unique to and it is one of the two locations where alcohol is available for purchase on campus.

...Laundry Facility

At least once a semester, the time comes for every college student to tackle that irksome pile of dirty clothes. Laundry-bound students hoping to make the most out of their \$1.75 of horded quarters should grab their fabric softener and head out to the North Quad.

Andrea Werner and Brittany Fischer, residents of Building 303, agree that the laundry rooms in the suites are the best place for the job.

"If you have to do laundry on campus, it's best to do it in one of the suite laundry rooms. They are a lot larger and they have more washers and dryers than the dorms," said Werner.

The suite laundry rooms in Buildings 302 and 303 have 10 washers and 12 dryers each. And unlike most of the dorm facilities that



PHOTO BY SABRINA HILL

Students' choice for best hang out spot at CSUMB, the BBC's visitors party for a scene in the student film "AbandoNinja" while CSUMB band Space Station Wagon gives a wild show.



PHOTO BY HEATHER JOHNSON

The laundry room in Bldg. 303 is considered the place to wash dirty clothes.

only have three washers and dryers apiece, the suites are large enough to accommodate multiple students and multiple loads.

"The machines in the dorms are old and always break down, but the one's in the suites are fantastic. They're big, fast and they get clothes really clean," said Fischer.

...Parking Lot

"The parking lot next to the World Theater is the best parking lot. It is where most people come for classes," said HCOM student, Jaime Echeverria.

Parking lot 28, located on Sixth Avenue, allows for the convenience of being able to walk to all Sixth Avenue classes, the World Theater and the University Center. It also has an electric permit meter that allows you to purchase daily and hourly permits with nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollars. This feature is not available on many lots.

Parking lot 28's design includes over 150 spots, six handicap spots, two 15-minute spots, and four service spots.

The lights and location create one of the safer lots in which to park. It is one of the better-lit lots on campus, with 20 light posts.

...Stargaze

On a clear night, with good weather and no money, head to the old marching field behind the IT building. UPD and Presidio police have made no objections to the field's use for stargazing.

"Where else but on Fort Ord can you get away from the city lights in Monterey," said Jamie Yonash, SBS major. The old marching field is far enough away from the lights to avoid light pollution, but a short enough walk from the dorms. The open field allows for a clear view of the sky.

With no light pollution, Polaris or the North Star should be visible, which is most often the brightest star. Depending on the time of year, different stars are visible, but the North Star should be visible anytime of the year on a clear night.



PHOTO BY BEN DEMAREST

The old marching field behind the IT building is the best place to stargaze on campus.

Adam's pics

The Vanishing (1988)



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George Sluizer's "The Vanishing" has such an unnerving ending that after I saw the film I had to step outside to get some fresh air and remind myself that "it was only a movie." This meticulously crafted

thriller is clever, mild-mannered, and doesn't manipulate the viewer through cheesy ambient "scary" music or shots of hands turning doorknobs in slow motion. The film plays on the globally common fear of kidnapping.

Saskia (Johanna ter Steege) and Rex (Gene Bervoets) are on holiday driving to France for the weekend. The young Dutch couple appears to be in love. They have a small fight in the car that is quickly resolved.

They stop at a gas station along the way. Saskia goes over to the small store to get some refreshments. After a while Rex goes over to the store to find Saskia, wondering what is holding her up. There is no sign of her. No one in the store knows anything. Saskia vanishes into thin air without a trace.

Saskia's disappearance becomes Rex's obsession. Even after three years since the day of her disappearance, he still spends every waking moment trying to track her down. He needs to know where she went that day, at any cost.

We know early on in the film the man (Bernard-Pierre Donnadieu) responsible for Saskia's disappearance. I assure you that I have given nothing away by stating this. We know what the man looks like; he's an average looking bearded man in his 40s. We know he has a family. But we don't know why he abducted her or what happened to her since then; though there are some jumbled hints provided through occasional flashbacks.

The abductor appears to be a rational, family man. But we sense uneasiness about him. The same kind of uneasiness we feel about characters like Hannibal Lector; someone who is charming and eloquent as well as evil and without a conscience.

We become even more uneasy seeing the flashbacks of the man planning the crime in such a calm and collect manner; it's as if he is planning something no more extraordinary than a trip to the grocery store.

Eventually, Rex loses all hope of finding Saskia alive, but the mystery of where she went still controls every aspect of his daily life. He is even in a new relationship with a woman who tries to support his perpetual search for an answer. Instead of working, he paints the streets of France and Holland with fliers of Saskia's picture asking for information. The abductor comes across one of the fliers and, not only feels for the man, he seems to admire his persistence as well as his endurance.

It is at this point that Sluizer's villain is able to continue playing his three-year old twisted game, offering Rex an option of a lose-lose situation. And so begins the unraveling of the final minutes of the film. Along with Rex, we

begin to see an outcome of a dismal demise.

Usually we are faced with the question of "who did it?" in conventional thriller and suspense films; but Sluizer makes us ask "what was done and why?" "The Vanishing" reserves its suspense without wasting any on long shots of dark hallways or sounds of rain tapping on windows.



www.imdb.com

The next generation of jazz

By Ben Demarest, Staff Reporter
BEN_DEMAREST@CSUMB.EDU

Forty-seven years ago the late Jimmy Lyons, jazz alto saxophonist, established the Monterey Jazz Festival.

"For Jimmy, a big part of having a festival was the kids," said Tim Jackson, General Manager of the Monterey Jazz Festival.

This year the Next Generation Festival continues Lyons' focus. It will be a three-day event, taking place at the Monterey Conference Center April 8-10.

The Next Generation Festival differs from past youth jazz festivals hosted by the Monterey Jazz Festival, in that it will include a middle school component. Twenty-one high school and middle school jazz bands will participate in four categories, which include High School Big Band, High School Combo, Vocal Ensembles, and Middle School Big Band.

Branford Marsalis, jazz saxophonist and the artist-in-residence, along with the other 14 competi-

tion judges for the Berklee College of Music will begin the event with a free concert at 7 p.m. in the DeAnza Ballroom of the Monterey Conference Center.

On Saturday the National High School Jazz Competition will begin at 9 a.m., 12 big bands, 6 combos, and 6 vocal groups will be performing throughout the day on a variety of stages. They will be competing for cash prizes, trophies and scholarships, including a four-year, full tuition scholarship to the Berklee College of Music.

On Sunday the middle schools will take the stage. They will be participating in non-competitive clinics. Sunday will also have a Big Band Composition; the winner's song will be picked on Sunday. The Next Generation Orchestra will play the winner's song at the Monterey Jazz Festival in September. The orchestra will be made up of musicians selected by the judges throughout the weekend.

CSUMB students understand the talent it takes just to play at the festival. Morgan Marilley grew up in Mission Viejo. During

high school she had the opportunity to see the high school band in action, "I'm not a very musical person but, Mission Viejo High School has an amazing band," said Marilley.

All the bands went through a two step audition process. Schools first had to be invited by the Monterey Jazz Festival to audition. Then they had to send a blind audition tape into the Berklee College of Music, the world's largest independent music college. Faculty at Berklee College of Music selected the 21 high schools and middle schools for the Next Generation Festival.

The past 35 years of youth jazz competitions hosted by the Monterey Jazz Festival have developed many stars. Joshua Redman and Patricia Rushen are performers that began their career in music with the National High School Jazz Competitions.

Joshua Redman has since produced nine CDs, and is currently touring with San Francisco Jazz Collective. Patrice Rushen has produced 15 CDs, and composed

music for numerous films and television shows.

The work of the Monterey Jazz Festival has been growing more important in recent years as music programs are cut from school budgets.

"As funding for music programs declines, we step up to fill that up, and continue America's music program," said Paul Fingerote, Public Relations manager for the Monterey Jazz Festival.

The Monterey Jazz Festival spends about \$500,000 annually on music education in Monterey County. The send musicians to public school to teach jazz, put on traveling clinics throughout the county, and put on events such

as the Next Generation Festival. Because, "for Jimmy, a big part of having a festival was the kids."

PHOTO MANIPULATED BY ADAM JOSEPH

High School Big Band

Albany HS - Albany
Aragon HS - San Mateo
Arts Acad - Beaverton, OR
Berkeley HS - Berkeley
Davis HS - Davis
Gunn HS - Palo Alto
Hamilton HS - Los Angeles
Homestead HS - Cupertino
Los Angeles CHSA - Los Angeles
Mission Viejo HS - Mission Viejo
Skyline HS - Salt Lake City, UT

High School Combos

Berkeley HS Combo I - Berkeley
LACHSA - Los Angeles

Vocal Ensembles

Dos Pueblos HS - Goleta
Hamilton HS - Los Angeles

Cannibus clubs push pot

By Annette Partida, Staff Reporter
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Medical marijuana still causes skepticism in the minds of many people. The idea of the budded plant bottled up behind counters of legal distributors fills the dreams of stoners with long stringy hair, and red eyes with the munchies.

Contrary to the “druggy” belief, California’s Proposition 215 and Senate Bill 420 legalized the use and growth of marijuana for medical purposes only. Twelve states, including California, have all voted for some sort of medical marijuana program.

Medicann, an alternative medical organization in California, and locally in Santa Cruz, has been committed to providing potential patients a safe and hostile-free environment, where medical professionals can properly and legally prescribe treatment.

Persons with serious medical problems such as glaucoma, insomnia, arthritis and seizure

disorders can receive a prescription from Medicann with proper identification and \$100.

After receiving their evaluation, some people may receive an identification card allowing the purchase, growth, and use of medical marijuana.

California dispensaries, loosely called “smoke shops” or “cannabis clubs” like the Vapor Room in San Francisco, are the actual providers of the product. Plants are usually grown and harvested within the dispensaries.

Strains called “Train Wreck” and “Diesel” are considered among the best medical cannabis varieties on the market.

Cannabinoids, the active ingredients of the cannabis plant, have therapeutic properties that can treat symptoms ranging from neurological disorders to tumor growth regulation. Often it is cheaper to purchase marijuana from dispensaries than it is from the street. Safer, too.

Since 2004, collective scientific research has proven cannabis to

have over 50,000 uses.

Jennifer Werbiskis, massage therapist and employee at a cannabis club in Oakland said, “It’s not just the typical grungy-types that come in to ‘pick-up a bag of weed.’ There are people that really need the plant to help them.”

Werbiskis’ father is dying of cancer. She has helped her father’s appetite by introducing him to medical marijuana products like cookies and tea.

Tax paying and law-abiding citizens frequently visit the facility where Werbiskis works. “We get parents and lawyers coming in here. People you never expected,” she said.

But medical marijuana is not all stimulated appetites and pain suppression. Senses are dulled and there is some distortion in memory and the ability to concentrate.

Medicann professionals warn their patients of the potential side effects that come with chronic use. There is loss of coordination and a delayed reaction time for

reflexes that may last hours after ingestion.

“Long term marijuana use can cause some mood disturbances, depression, and apathy, even in otherwise healthy individuals. The apathy associated with marijuana use can contribute or

“We get parents and lawyers coming in here. People you never expected.”

—JENNIFER WERBISKIS

worsen other processes, such as generalized anxiety disorder, social isolation, and obesity,” said a Medicann Representative.

Smoking marijuana seems to be the preference of most users. The advantage is the speed at which the cannabinoids hit the brain.

Smoking marijuana may lead to bronchitis and other respiratory problems, yet there have been no documented correlation between marijuana usage and lung cancer.

It may be that the generation of habitual pot users have not

abused their lungs long enough for there to be any case studies. The Marlboro Man’s lungs didn’t collapse overnight.

Eating Medical Marijuana seems to be the optimal choice. “It takes longer for you to feel anything, but you don’t damage your lungs,” Werbiskis said.

Regardless of personal stances on the issue, the Drug Enforcement Agency and the U.S. Supreme Court are not ready for total legalization of marijuana.

“Nobody wants their kids on the stuff, but if you legalize it, there won’t be so much taboo about pot in society. Look at what bootlegging did to this country,” said Matthew Ryan, 23, CSUMB student.

“I was in Amsterdam and the stuff is legal there. But the people act different about it,” he said.

Ryan and his friends traveled the streets of Amsterdam boggled that people were accepting and respectful towards marijuana usage.

“There were no kids running around trying to score anything. It was crazy,” said Ryan. “It was crazy.”

Miss Epiphany goes to the porn theatre



MISS EPIPHANY

At the Adult Bookstore, Nu Art, on Fremont, me and my friend C. came in to check out the merchandise and to see just what brand of pathetic is buying porn and porn accessories at two in the morning.

We score some easy parking, right in front where that familiar and welcoming yellow glow from the sign outside can keep my car warm while we scour the

Technicolor racks for a gem.

We find “Santa’s Horny Helpers,” starring Ron Jeremy as Saint Dick, “Debbie Does ‘Em All,” not starring the original Debbie and “Jezebel,” a cautionary tale of love and spiritual awakening through infidelity and group sex.

C. is looking for a vibrator “for a friend” whose birthday is com-

ing up. Yeah, right. I ask her to go half on the porno DVDs with me to ease her conscience. She agrees under the condition that we share custody.

She finally settles on a 7” pink fella that costs around \$45. My smut is looking to ring up for just as much, all together, and that’s cheap for porn. It’s on special sale because it’s from the good old hairy ‘70s, or as people in the business call it, “The Golden Age” and as I call it, “Filth au-natural.”

As we headed toward the glass-encased counter to drop about a Benjamin on goodies, I realized we hadn’t seen any perverts in our favorite late-night hangout. No one had emerged, sweating from the previewing booths. No one was roaming in the gay magazine section or eyeing the fetish wear.

Feeling cheated and adventurous, I asked the large clerk behind the flavored condoms, “Does the porn theatre cost money to watch? I just want to peak my head in,

I’m not going to sit down or anything.”

“Go ahead, I ain’t trippin’.” He motioned toward the door at the far right side of the parlor into which I had never once dared to venture. I looked at C. and the horror in her eyes only egged me on.

“Let’s go,” I grabbed her hand and practically dragged her to the door. We didn’t touch the handle to our bare palms, of course. I pulled my hoodie sleeve over my hand and turned the knob slowly with intense desire.

As the gap between the door frame and the door grew larger and the artificial moans of two women and one man grew louder, C. and I slowly breached the line of big-screen porn innocence with our eyes, while still keeping our feet firmly planted outside in the safety of the lights and surveillance cameras.

I saw the largest vagina I had ever seen in my life that night. I also saw a man kneading his

genitals in the back row, and truthfully, I was all right until he saw me. As this balding, middle-aged masturbator squinted at us and rubbed frantically in the darkness, we realized the moral of this encounter.

I squealed in disgust at his utter disregard for his own shame and the mind-halting continuation of his beforehand solo act and repelled the upper half of my body back into the safety of the light.

“I’ll give you a discount on the dildo for your phone number,” said the clerk, talking to C. and leaning in.

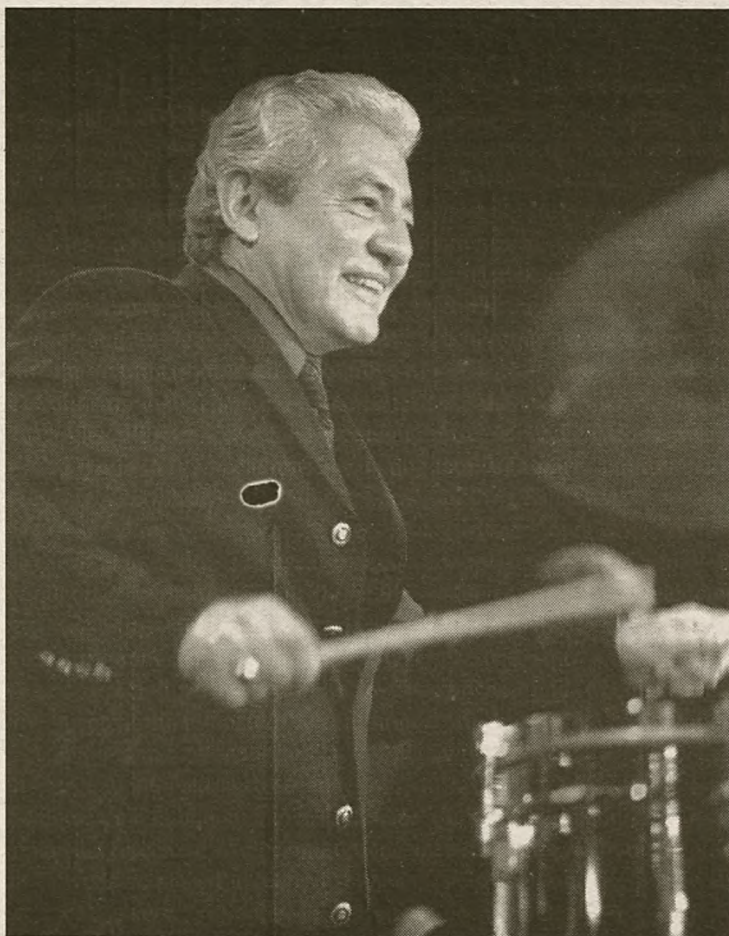
“Oh..ha ha,” she laughed nervously.

C. and I left Nu Art that night with a \$45 dildo we paid \$25 for, three new deliciously ridiculous time killers on disc, and a lesson.

Never come into a room full of horny men unless you’re prepared to join or at least be filed away into their masturbation Rolodex.

Ah well. Lesson learned.

Latin Jazz at the World Theatre



Legendary Latin Jazz percussionist Pete Escovedo playing the vibes

PHOTO COURTESY OF PETE ESCOVEDO

Latin Jazz percussionist Pete Escovedo returns to CSUMB

By Justin Kisner, Staff Reporter
JUSTIN_KISNER@CSUMB.EDU

Legendary Latin Jazz percussionist Pete Escovedo returns to the World Theatre Thursday, April 7. This time he will be appearing with his own Latin Jazz Orchestra.

"I'm looking forward to coming; it's a great place to play," said Escovedo.

Escovedo describes his music as "a marriage between Latin music and jazz" with R&B and Afro-Cuban influence. Pete Escovedo Latin Jazz Orchestra is a 10 piece band with five horns and a complete rhythm section.

"My first love, of course, was jazz when I was in school and I first started playing," said Escovedo. After meeting musicians from New York, Puerto Rico and Cuba who steered him into the world of Afro-Cuban music, he started taking interest in other forms of jazz.

"At the time I was learning how to play saxophone because I wanted to play jazz but then I started hearing a lot of Afro-Cuban music, got interested in it and switched over to percussion," he said.

Escovedo spent the early years of his career forming bands with his brothers and touring with big name musicians like Carlos Santana and Barry White.

"At the time that I was hired to play with other people it was a great experience, but now at this point I really prefer just doing my own thing and playing with my own orchestra," said Escovedo.

However, he still keeps his music in the family by regularly playing with his two sons, Juan and Peter Michael.

"My two sons usually play with me but on this trip only one of my sons will be there, my son, Juan," said Escovedo.

According to Dawn Gibson-Brehon, director of the Presenting Program and World Theatre,

Escovedo's first performance at the World Theatre was alongside Jazz Trumpeter Ray Vega in February of 2004.

This time he is coming in to close the World Theatre's Performing Art Series and also to be a part of the Seventh Annual Heritage Festival presented in partnership with the Music and Performing Arts Department.

"We're partnering with the music department in coming up with a series of daylong activities that will be open to the public as well as the people on campus," said Gibson-Brehon.

According to Gibson-Brehon, the Music and Performing Arts Department has sponsored the Heritage Festival for the past six years and the idea of pulling together the resources of the two departments was a product of the budget cut.

"We thought maybe having some shows during the day along with the Pete Escovedo event may be a good way of broadening and getting more audiences here for all of these programs," she said.

According to Shirlene Campbell, program coordinator for the Music and Performing Arts Department, the Heritage Festival will also include two free events on April 7 with complementary light refreshments. Seating for these events will be on a first come, first serve basis.

The first event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. at the CSUMB University Center and will premier the jazz, Afro-Cuban and Afro-Brazilian music styles of the group Alegria. The second event is scheduled from 4 a.m. to 5:50 p.m. at the CSUMB Music Hall Auditorium and will spotlight Monterey Bay's own reggae and world music group Jonah and the Whalewatchers.

Pete Escovedo Latin Jazz Orchestra is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. For ticket information contact the World Theatre.

The Low Down

To post an event, please e-mail
Adam Joseph via FirstClass

Thursday, April 7

Visiting Artist Lecture features Stephanie Johnson and Akin Miller and the topic, "Honoring the Spirit of our African American Heritage." Free, UC Living Room. 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 9

Viva Malpache and Las 15 Letras. Free, BBC. 9 p.m.

Tuesday, April 12

"Inventos: Hip Hop Cubano," an award winning documentary is being shown followed by a discussion with the filmmaker, Eli Jacobs-Fantauzzi. Free, BBC. 6.30pm.

Wednesday, April 13

"Girl Trouble," is a documentary film that explores the truth of the juvenile justice system. Following the film there will be a discussion with Lidia Szajko, one of the filmmakers. BBC. Free. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 14

Visiting Artist Lecture features Gary Quinonez and Todd Kruper and the topic, "The Visual Arts on the Monterey Peninsula: An Alternate History." Free, UC Living Room. 6 p.m.

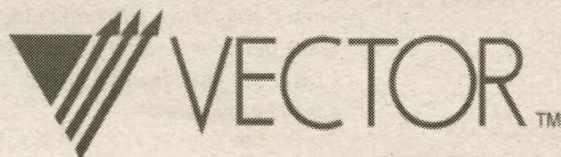
Friday, April 15

Sex Show. Sex education, game shows, raffles, DJs, and great prizes; what more can we ask for. All proceeds go to EMPOWER. Free. \$1/ Raffle Ticket. BBC. 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Saturday, April 16

Zion-I, Free PotRoc, Adam Lopez, w/ DJ Enigado, are performing in a free show at the BBC. 9 p.m.

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Opinion

Internet blogs no substitute for newspapers

By Alex Chapman
ALEXANDER_CHAPMAN@CSUMB.EDU

You reading this are of a noble but potentially dying breed known as the newspaper reader.

Current trends show a decline in newspaper readership and an increase in blog readership. This is a worrying trend because blogs, "Web logs," are not a reliable source of news and bloggers are not real journalists, no matter what their blogs say.

Yes, newspaper readership is down. In 1970 almost 80 percent of the population read the daily newspaper compared

Nonsense. Real journalists have two key qualities bloggers lack: accountability and a responsibility towards the truth.

to close to 50 percent by 2003, according to the Newspaper Association of America (NAA).

In contrast, blog readership soured 58

percent in 2004, according to the Pew Internet and American Life project. Almost a tenth of adult Internet users are bloggers as new technology makes Web publishing easier than ever. Many read like diaries, while others front as hard news sources.

News bloggers have been using their increased popularity to infiltrate the press corps. They have been fighting for such press rights as source confidentiality, the right to attend press conferences, get press passes and go on press junkets.

Bloggers claim to be following in the tradition of the revolutionary 18th century pamphleteer. Back then rebels would fire off diatribes on penny-presses to pass out by hand in crowds, an inflammatory source of news and gossip useful for kicking out the King of England.

Bloggers argue they have the same first amendment rights as television, radio and print journalists and the same press rights, too. They claim they're kept honest by their readership, who are able to post rebuttals.

Nonsense. Real journalists have two key qualities bloggers lack: accountability and a responsibility towards the truth.

Do not trust bloggers. Some may be journalists, publishing outlaw news, but don't trust them either. The guilty parties behind blogs often hide behind pseudonyms and

ensure their servers are in countries disrespectful of libel law. Blogs are the worst evolution of the supermarket tabloid.

The news in the *Otter Realm* is trustworthy because the writers are held accountable. We are real people, real students on campus engaged in the same educational and self-actualizing endeavors as everyone else.

We have faces, morals and ethics. Bloggers hide behind their anonymity. In many cases, they pride themselves on it. Who are these people? Why trust shadows with the truth?

Bloggers don't need to publish established truth and too often publish unsubstantiated rumor. Blog reports flit by at internet speed, leaving little time for the truth.

One blogger, who described himself via phone as "sort of like a journalist" has posted an elaborate theory online linking CSUMB (called "the University of Bill Clinton") to Al-Qaeda and blames Hillary Clinton for the events of 9/11.

Is this article on an obscure blog as trustworthy as if it were published in the *Otter Realm*? No. But is it accessible to anyone in the world with an Internet connection and a Web browser? Frighteningly, yes.

Filtered news has greater truth. Editors

ensure nothing blatantly libelous or fraudulent is published. When it does we print our mistakes with shame next to our names and

We are real people, real students on campus engaged in the same educational and self-actualizing endeavors as everyone else.

readers looking for the guilty parties can see we own up to our mistakes.

Due to their lack of accountability and truthfulness bloggers should be denied equal press rights, and readers should remember the newspaper remains the most trustworthy source of news today.

America's youth are turning on to newspapers. NAA demographic data shows an increase of 2.5 million daily newspaper readers in the 18-24 crowd over the past seven years. It's a growing trend.

Please read this newspaper more. If you get a chance, read the others in whatever area you live in. Besides, how can you wrap your fish and chips in a blog?

Bounty Hunting S. Thompson

I concede the almost too commonplace point that mainstream news has regressed from a state of information to a cesspool of capitalism, but what I refuse to accept is the

The underlying question in my mind: whose ethical responsibility is it to stay out of the affairs of private citizens, and begin telling what the fuck is really going on?

nominality with which current affairs are glanced over in favor of less than relevant human interest failures. When an 8.7 earthquake ruptured Indonesia on March 28, I naively expected at least minimal coverage

on this event; however, this catastrophe, which has thus far claimed a reported 647 lives, was only lightly mentioned in a small casual ticker tape at the bottom of the major network newscasts, and brushed off in past tenses by the anchorpersons. In stead we were blessed by round the clock coverage of The King Of Pop's pedophilia case, the pope's waning health (and now demise), and Terri Schiavo, who, although functionless and a vegetable, is apparently still "fighting" for her life. The underlying question in my mind: whose ethical responsibility is it to stay out of the affairs of private citizens, and begin telling what the fuck is really going on? The networks claim their market research suggests that (heaven forbid) precious ratings points could be lost if the lives of Michael's Jackson, and Schiavo weren't publicly scrutinized. So, in essence, they are blaming we the viewers, who, in our ignorant wisdom, have allowed spectacle to ransack the core of our voyeuristic minds. It really isn't too

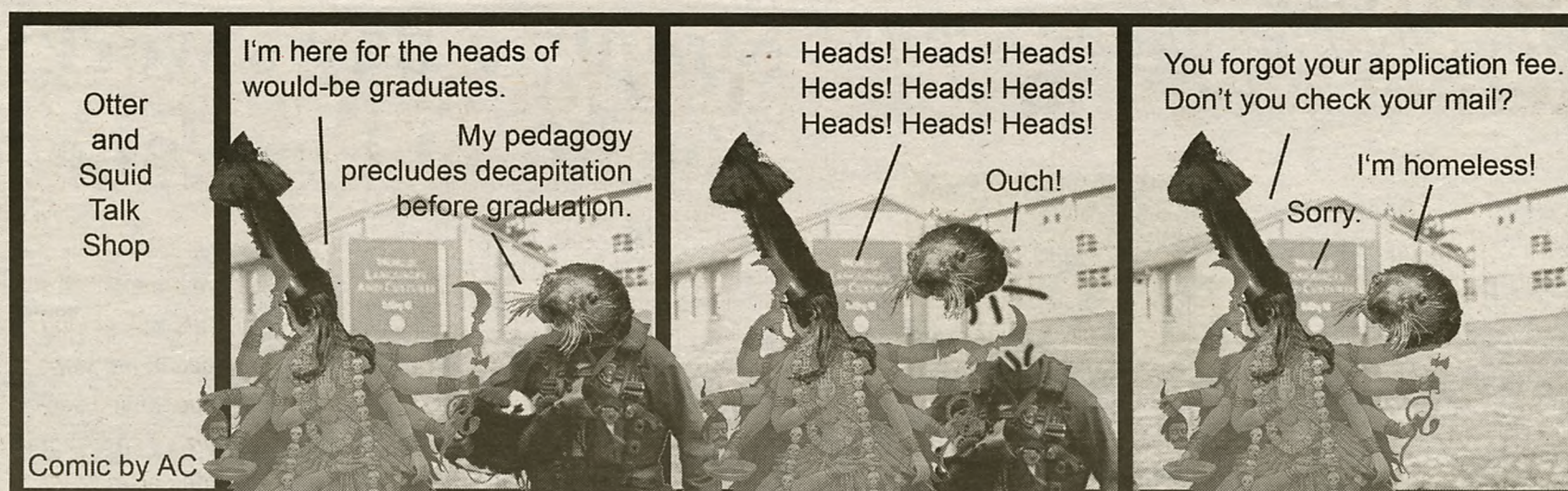
surprising though. I read the *Otter Realms* account of Hunter S. Thompson. About his selfish suicide and I had to smile, smug and sad. It isn't enough that the top new entertainment spectacles are: American

And when it passes, we'll erect a statue, 8 miles high, in the likeness of Hunter S. Thompson, and finally remember his life, and maybe even forget he died.

Idol, which we worship religiously, and yet still attend church guiltless on Sunday. Survivor, whose occupants chose to be put on that island, which kind of undermines the definition of the verb "To Survive." The Real World, The Trading Spouses, and Sodomy on the Bounty (soon to come, I'm sure). All of these I regretfully expect and

ignore, but to turn Raoul Duke's magnanimous career into a personal sob story about how selfish he was for killing himself; I'm a patient man, but that I cannot understand. I can only hope that when Hunter saw that high water mark outside of Las Vegas he was wrong. I hold hope that the tide is not out, it is latent. That an earthquake measuring 19 billion on the Voyeuristic meter has hit off the coast of the Americas, and a tidal wave of decency and respect is only minutes away, come to wash out the Red scare, the Agent Orange, the Yellow journalism, this Green disease, the black, white, brown, blue and violent tendencies of a masochistic society on the verge of a meltdown. And when it passes, we'll erect a statue, 8 miles high, in the likeness of Hunter S. Thompson, and finally remember his life, and maybe even forget he died. But for the love of God, until that wave comes, help leave the dead to the dead, and leave the poor deject and unloved prisoners of the 5th amendment violations to grieve for their losses.

—Erhman Hall



STOP CUTTING CSU FUNDING AND START THINKING SMART

After the reading, "Governator targets the CSU system," I found myself experiencing *deja vu*. Here we are again fighting the same battle that we were fighting last year.

When we look at budget issues in our home, we find that when income is low, we begin cutting back on costs. We become thrifty in our purchases, we begin turning lights off when not in use or even start buying energy efficient lights bulbs to cut energy costs. So what I don't understand is why we don't begin to do the same with the CSU. It's about time that the CSU system start taking proactive measures when searching for solutions to deal with the state's budget issues.

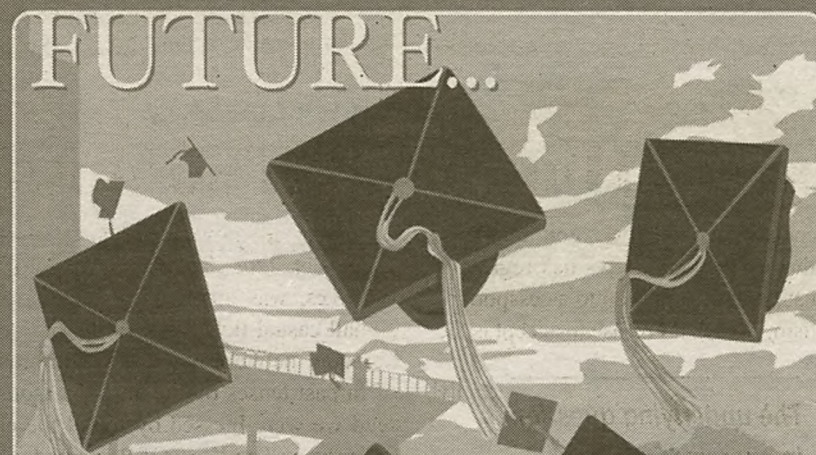
Chancellor Reed and the CSU Board of Trustees will be meeting on March 15-16 and possibly discussing a clean energy policy in an effort to cut energy costs. Wow, the board has actually come to the realization that there are other options out there like on-site solar energy and energy efficient green buildings that can cut major costs. CSU, the largest university system in the country, is the last major institution in California to start thinking smart. It is unfortunate that Chancellor Reed is slow to act on such obvious solutions while our universities are at stake.

Evelyn Gutierrez
Senior/Political Science

Otter Ops

The graphic on page 12 was not by Sara Dowe. It was manipulated by Adam Joseph.

Hey Otters,
As you can see we've made some changes to our publication. We want to know what you think. Send your comments, good and bad, to our Editor in Chief Rachel Kane
Rachel_Kane@csumb.edu



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**STATE
COMPENSATION
INSURANCE
FUND**

Should marijuana be legal? Why?

Sean Steuer
SOPHOMORE
UNDECLARED

"You have the right to put what you want in your body!"



Jamie Younse
SOPHOMORE
TMAC

"The confused look on my face is my answer. But... err... I think a specific amount should be legal. Check out Amsterdam, those crazy cats seem to be more at peace than us here in the states."

Lisa Basili
JUNIOR
GS

"Damn straight it should be legal. Pot is a good thing; look at Holland."



Hannah Lineberry
SOPHOMORE
BUS

"Yes, then the government could tax it and use the money to save the Salinas libraries."

Simply a day's work: The life of Les Lamcke

Marian Muhammad, Staff Reporter
MARIAN_MUHAMMAD@CSUMB.EDU

As a student, thrill seeker, performer and chairman, there is no time to rest for Les Lamcke. Originally from Santa Clara, Lamcke yearned to conquer the uncharted lands of CSUMB since its opening 10 years ago.

The HCOM senior now sits on the Otter Student Union (OSU) board as chairman after advancing from his previous position as operations chairman. Through his work with the OSU, Les has had the opportunity to work with his peers and create new developments for students through various upgrades and marketing strategies at the Black Box Cabaret.

"We have goals and we accomplish them, that's what the OSU does," said Lamcke.

Along with his job as chairman, Lamcke also participates in the Ad-Hoc committee as the researching chair to research and develop plans for the future Student Union Building. Through his experience as chairman and committee member, Lamcke has grown a lot as a person.

"It changes the way that I deal with people on a professional basis," he said.

Lamcke strives to give students the opportunity to be themselves and do something special, and he feels developing a place for them to go will do just that.

"There's no central place where students can go and break a mold; there is nothing like that on this campus," said Lamcke.

Aside from his time spent in board and committee meetings, Lamcke has still managed to find time to enjoy some of life's simpler pleasures. Lamcke finds peace in the Monterey Bay waters as he takes time out to ride the waves or to simply take a dip in the pool.

He also enjoys more rugged sports like motorcycle racing. For Lamcke, when he's not riding his own motorcycle, watching it on the tube is the next best thing.

Along with his work with the OSU and Outdoor Adventures, Lamcke finds also finds peace and tranquility in his music. As lead singer and guitarist in his five-member band "The Smoking Rose Buds," Lamcke does all he can to make use of his many talents.

"Musically he paints a great picture with his words and his voice," said Anthony Chavez, manager of and performer in the band.

Lamcke even launched his solo musical career branching off from his band and developing what is known as the Les Lamcke Solo Experience, in which he sings along to the mellow tunes of his acoustic guitar.

The 22-year-old musician, whose mantra is "to rock out and be rocking all the time," also finds time for the arts - theater that is. Lamcke was the star in CSUMB's production of Hedwig and the Angry Inch and was also cast in Gavilan College's production of The Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Les said he enjoys working in theater despite the hard work, but his main passion is still music.

"I don't consider music a hobby; I consider it a way of life," said Lamcke.

Friends and co-workers of his describe him as a "go-to guy" who is passionate and dedicated to his work.

"He makes things happen for himself. He looks for opportunities and jumps on them," said Derek Ford, Business senior and friend of Lamcke.

With the many talents Lamcke carries under his belt, he sees himself as just a simple guy helping others and still do the things that he loves best.

"I don't see myself as anyone but me," said Lamcke. "I'm just me."



PHOTO PROVIDED BY LES LAMCKE
Lamcke wiggles his toes in the sand.



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